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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,659	09/29/2003	Chun Te Yu	EL-CFP00414	8271
25864	7590	02/02/2006	EXAMINER	
CHARLES C.H. WU			GALL, LLOYD A	
98 DISCOVERY				
IRVINE, CA 92618-3105			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3676

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/671,659	YU, CHUN TE	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lloyd A. Gall	3676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 15 and 16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

In view of the discovery of additional prior art, the allowability of claims 13, 15 and 16 is withdrawn. It is regretted that this additional art was not earlier relied upon.

Applicant should note that the terminal disclaimers filed on October 26, 2005 have been approved, and recorded.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Huang (076).

Loughlin (324) teaches, and in relying upon its provisional application 60/470,999, as seen in figs. 5a and 5b, a padlock with a combination lock 14 controlling movement of the longer shackle leg in its channel, and a second channel receiving the block 32 having a receptacle 34 to control unlocking movement of the shorter leg of the shackle, and as disclosed in paragraph 0137 on page 11, the block 32 may be key actuated from the bottom of the padlock body, and includes a connection between the block 32 and the key plug. Huang teaches a well known connection as seen in fig. 5 including a driving rod 30, 33 to engage a mounting portion of the structure which it rotates when in use. It would have been obvious to provide a driving rod connection between the key plug and block 32 of Loughlin, in view of the teaching of Huang, the motivation being to ensure simultaneous rotation of the block 32 with rotation of the key plug.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Huang as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Meckbach (678).

As seen in figs. 5 and 6, Meckbach teaches that it is well known to provide at least two sockets 132, 133 in a mounting portion 131 to receive the plates 28 extending from a key plug. It would have been obvious to modify the connection of Loughlin as modified by Huang to include two plates extending from the key plug of Loughlin to engage two sockets in the mounting portion of the block 32 of Loughlin, in view of the teaching of Meckbach, the motivation being to ensure simultaneous rotation of the block 32 with the key plug of Loughlin.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Lai (672) and Huang (076).

Loughlin as relying upon its provisional application 60/470,999 and the Huang references have been discussed above. Lai teaches a combination lock of a padlock including a stop 35 in the channel 68 cooperable with a smaller diameter opening at 79, and connected with a stem 34. It would have been obvious to modify the combination lock of Loughlin to include a smaller diameter opening of the combination lock channel cooperable with a stem and stop of the shackle, in view of the teaching of Lai, the motivation being to prevent the removal of the shackle, and the potential loss of the shackle. It would have been obvious to provide a driving rod connection between the key plug and block 32 of Loughlin, in view of the teaching of Huang, the motivation being to ensure simultaneous rotation of the block 32 with rotation of the key plug.

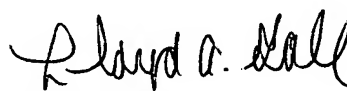
Art Unit: 3676

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lloyd A. Gall whose telephone number is 571-272-7056. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LG LG
January 5, 2006


Lloyd A. Gall
Primary Examiner